

# NAGS HEAD LINES

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Issue 72

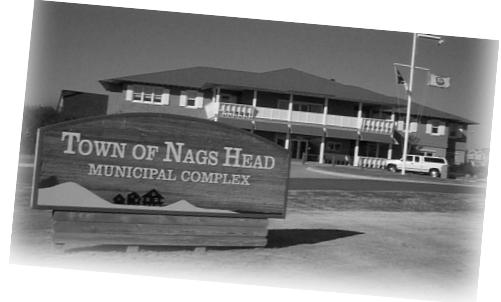
Summer 2009

A communications link between you and your government, this publication intends to keep you informed about the "happenings" in your town.

## Message from Town Hall

### Hurricanes, Winter Storms, Erosion, and Flooding

#### What You Need to Know as a Nags Head Property Owner



A number of characteristics make Nags Head a sought-after place to live or vacation.

Chief among these is the Town's proximity to water and beaches. A recreational wonderland, Nags Head is closely tied to its natural environment. As a result, we must be prepared for what the natural environment can bring.

The greatest threats come from hurricanes, winter storms, and seasonal high tides. Nags Head is a barrier island bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and the Roanoke Sound, making us vulnerable to flooding. Previous storms (such as the 1991 Halloween Storm, the March 1993 storm, and Hurricane Isabel in 2003) have caused either ocean overwash or flooding from the sound. Areas flooded by these storms include much of south Nags Head and areas between Jockey's Ridge State Park and Whalebone Junction.

#### Storm Preparation Reduces the Loss of Lives and Property

Storms, hurricanes, flood warnings, and impending dangerous conditions, as well as evacuation procedures, are broadcast to the public by Internet, radio, television, local emergency agencies, and NOAA weather radio. The warning messages may include information regarding the expected degree of flooding or storm surge, the affected bodies of water, where and when flooding is expected to begin, and the expected maximum water level during flooding. Warnings are also transmitted through Early Alert System (EAS) radio. For this area, the primary EAS station is WRSF (105.7 FM) in Columbia. In addition,

#### In This Issue . . .

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Hurricanes, Winter Storms.....                 | 1 |
| Important Flood Insurance Information.....     | 3 |
| Recent Changes You Should Know About.....      | 5 |
| Sanitation Schedule/Recycling Information..... | 6 |
| Town Boards and Committees.....                | 7 |
| Town Complex Information.....                  | 7 |
| Town Calendar.....                             | 8 |

Hurricane, Winter Storms...  
Continued from page 1

other local radio stations and local Government Access cable channel 20 may provide important information and warning messages.

## **WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE STORM**

**CHECK** your flood insurance policy or contact a Nags Head building inspector to learn in which flood zone your property is located. The building inspector may also be able to tell you: the elevation of your home, whether your home is in a special hazard area, the base flood zone elevation, and if your home is subject to storm surge. Note: flood insurance is not typically effective until 30 days AFTER you pay the premium.

**LIST** your personal property for insurance purposes. Review your insurance policy and take advantage of flood insurance.

**MONITOR** storm reports on radio and TV and plan your evacuation early.

**LEARN** the location of the nearest inland shelter.

(Due to the potential for flooding, there are no public shelters in Dare County.)

**CHECK** transistor radios and flashlights for batteries.

**KNOW** how to use candles, matches, and lamps safely.

**ENSURE** that your vehicle has a full tank of gas.

**KEEP** money on hand for emergencies in case ATM's become inoperable.

**MAINTAIN** a 7 day supply of needed medicine.

**STORE** packaged food and canned goods in the event there is no electricity.

**FILL** clean containers with drinking water—enough for several days.

**FILL** bathtubs with water to use for flushing toilets.

**HAVE** shutters and lumber available for protecting doors and windows.

**PLAN** to evacuate if you live in a mobile home.

## **WHEN A HURRICANE WARNING IS ISSUED**

**LISTEN** to radio or TV for directions and weather advisories.

Continued on page 3

## **Evacuation**

The decision to evacuate is a primary function of the Dare County Control Group. This group is composed of the mayors of each of the six municipalities, the Dare County Board Chairman or his/her designee, the National Park Service Superintendent, and the Dare County Sheriff. The overall goal is for evacuating vehicles to leave with sufficient time before the arrival of 34 knot (almost 40 mph) winds. Evacuation decisions will be broadcast over local radio stations. In the vicinity of the Wright Memorial Bridge, weather and storm information is available on 1610 AM.

If an evacuation occurs, you should leave the area in sufficient time to avoid traffic congestion. There are two primary routes for evacuation: US 64/264 across the Virginia Dare bridge and onto the mainland, and north on US 158, across the Wright Memorial Bridge to Currituck County. Both routes are marked with Evacuation Route signs.

### **If You Do Not Evacuate**

- Call the Town at 252-449-2018 if you intend to remain during an evacuation.
- Monitor the media for the latest instructions.
- Stay inside and away from doors and windows. Do not go outside in the brief calm during passage of the storm's eye. Ocean and sound waters can rise quickly, so do not venture outside.

### **If You Evacuate**

- Know where you are going. Leave early and in daylight.
- If you go to a shelter (there are no shelters in Dare County), take personal items, special dietary needs, infant foods, etc.
- Turn off as many utilities as you can safely. Do not touch electrical equipment unless it is in a dry area, or if you are standing on a piece of dry wood while wearing rubber-soled shoes or boots and rubber gloves.

If conditions warrant, water and electrical service may be discontinued, especially if your property is in a particularly vulnerable area.

Hurricane, Winter Storms...  
Continued from page 2

**ANCHOR** or move loose outside objects such as garbage cans and lawn furniture inside your home.

**BOARD** up or shutter large windows to reduce shattering.

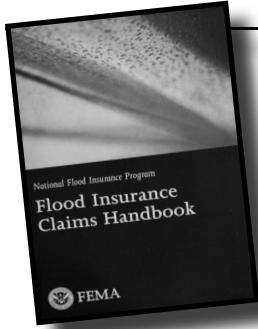
**STORE** valuable and personal papers in a safe, waterproof location.

## AFTER THE STORM

**RETURN** only when advised by local officials, if you have evacuated.

**BEWARE** of outdoor hazards such as glass, nails, and loose or dangling power lines, etc.

**GUARD** against spoiled food and don't use water until notified it is safe.



Your property may be located in a flood zone. Upon request, Nags Head will provide information regarding whether your property is located in a special flood hazard area and the history of flooding in that area, as well as any other information on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Additional information that can be provided includes:

- The community number, the panel number and suffix, and the date of the FIRM's index.
  - The FIRM zone, e.g., X, VE, AE, etc. along with the base flood elevation (estimated height of the 100 year flood) and the elevation datum used on the FIRM, if other than the North American Vertical Datum.
- If you would like to make an

## Important Flood Insurance Information

inquiry, please have the following information available regarding the property:

- (1) Street address
- (2) subdivision, block, and lot number, and
- (3) PIN (Property Identification Number) from your tax records.

To request information from FIRM maps, please call Nags Head Planning and Development at 252-441-7016.

Should you need to obtain flood insurance, the Town participates in the federal government's National Flood Insurance Program, which makes flood insurance available to Nags Head property owners. Please be aware that properties located within the Town's corporate limits that are subject to federally supported mortgages are required to be protected with flood insurance. Owners of properties free of encumbrances should

## Radio Station Frequencies

|      |                |          |
|------|----------------|----------|
| WZPR | Wanchese       | 92.3 FM  |
| WCMS | Nags Head      | 94.5 FM  |
| WOBR | Nags Head      | 95.3 FM  |
| WKJX | Elizabeth City | 96.7 FM  |
| WYND | Wanchese       | 97.1 FM  |
| WOBX | Nags Head      | 98.1 FM  |
| WVOD | Wanchese       | 99.1 FM  |
| WERX | Nags Head      | 102.5 FM |
| WCXL | Nags Head      | 104.1 FM |
| WFMZ | Wanchese       | 104.9 FM |
| WRSF | Nags Head      | 105.7 FM |
| WOBX | Nags Head      | 1530 AM  |

also strongly consider having this valuable protection. It is important to know that a standard homeowner's policy does not cover flood losses. For more information on flood insurance, visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site, [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or consult your local insurance agent or broker.

Finally, Nags Head is working to reduce flood losses, ensure accurate insurance ratings, and promote the awareness of flood insurance through its participation in the National Flood Insurance Community Rating System (CRS). As a participant in the CRS, flood insurance premiums have been reduced by 20%, which results in a savings of more than \$248,000 to policy holders in Nags Head who have property in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

In Nags Head there are two Special Flood Hazard Areas, the AE flood

Continued on page 4

Important Flood Insurance Information  
Continued from page 3

zone and the VE flood zone. The VE flood zone includes most properties east of NC 12 and SR 1243 and the AE zone, sometimes called the 100-year flood zone, includes other areas in the Town subject to flooding either from the sound or the ocean. For more information, contact the Planning and Development Department.

## Floodplains

Development within a floodplain or flood zone may be subject to additional standards and permits to prevent flood losses. In addition to special construction techniques, special elevation regulations may apply. In most cases, permits may be required, so please contact a building inspector prior to any landscaping activity, building, filling, or redevelopment project. Report any suspicious floodplain development to the building inspectors at 252-441-7016.

## Natural and Beneficial Floodplain Functions

### Natural Flood and Erosion Control

Floodplains provide flood storage and conveyance of floodwaters, reduce flood flow, and control erosion of beachfront structures.

### Water Quality

Floodplains filter nutrients and impurities from runoff.

### Ground Water Recharge

Floodplains reduce frequency and

duration of surface runoff flows.

### Biological Resources

Floodplains support a high rate of plant growth, provide breeding and feeding areas, and enhances waterfowl habitat.

### Societal Resources

Floodplains provide open space, recreation, and aesthetic resources.

The Nags Head Code of Ordinances protecting the natural and beneficial functions of our floodplains are: Protection of Sand Dunes-Section 8-3; Operation of Motor Vehicles on the Beaches-Section 8-61 to 8-63 and 8-81 to 8-86; Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance-Section 28-1 to 28-22; Flood Damage Protection Ordinance-Section 22-31 to 22-36; CAMA regulations-by contract with the State.

### Retrofitting

Retrofitting minimizes flood damage to homes. There are many ways to accomplish this, though they are normally incorporated into the initial design of the house. However, there are also many steps that can be taken to minimize or eliminate the potential for flood damage to an existing home. Examples of retrofitting include elevating your house on pilings, or



in extreme cases, relocating the house to a safer location. Another retrofitting measure includes elevating and attaching the outside heating and cooling units to the side of your house, above projected flood levels. To find out more about retrofitting, please contact our building inspectors. They can visit your home, review your plan, and offer suggestions.

### Help Maintain Drainage Ditches

Maintenance of drainage ditches is an important flood prevention measure. Debris-clogged ditches can be a hazard during a storm, disrupting stormwater flow. It is illegal to dump any material, debris, etc., into a stream or ditch. Should you see this, call Nags Head Public Works at 252-441-1122 immediately.

Continued on page 5

### Maximum Available Flood Insurance Coverage

|                        | Building  | Contents  |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Single Family Dwelling | \$250,000 | \$100,000 |
| Other Residential      | \$250,000 | \$100,000 |
| Non-Residential        | \$500,000 | \$500,000 |
| Small Business         | \$500,000 | \$500,000 |

Important Flood Insurance Information  
Continued from page 4

**For Additional Storm Information:**

- Contact Dare County at 1-877-629-4386 for general hurricane information or visit their web site at [www.co.dare.nc.us](http://www.co.dare.nc.us).
- Call Nags Head Planning and Development at 252-441-7016 for planning issues.
- Read the introductory pages of the latest editions of the local telephone books for important evacuation tips.
- Watch Dare County's Local Government Access Channel 20 on local TV.
- Check out the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)) for emergency preparedness and recovery information.
- Visit [www.readync.org](http://www.readync.org) for North Carolina disaster preparedness information.

## **Recent Changes You Should Know About**

### **Town Newsletter Mailing Schedule Change**

Nags Head Lines, the newsletter you are reading now, will only be printed and mailed twice a year. However, an online edition will be available via the Town's web site ([www.townofnagshead.net](http://www.townofnagshead.net)) four times a year.



### **Roving Recycling Trailers Now Permanently Situated**

The Town of Nags Head's roving neighborhood recycling trailers, which were situated in several neighborhoods throughout the week, will now be located permanently at the following areas:

- Nags Head Town Hall (5401 S. Croatan Hwy)
- Nags Head Public Works (2200 Lark Street)
- Huron Street public beach access (Mile Post 17, south of Whalebone Junction)

These three sites are open 24 hours/day. For more information, call Nags Head Public Works at 252-441-1122.

### **Volunteers Needed for Dangerous Animal Appeal Board**

The Town has recently adopted an ordinance concerning dangerous dogs. As a result, the Town's Chief of Police now has the authority to make the determination that an animal is dangerous. However, animal owners may appeal a dangerous animal determination to the Dangerous Animal Appeal Board. This Board is comprised of 5 members appointed by the Town's Board of Commissioners to serve 2 year terms, though a panel of no more than 3 Board members will be necessary to hear an appeal.

If you are interested in serving on the Dangerous Animal Appeal Board, please notify Town Clerk Carolyn Morris at 252-449-2009 or [morris@townofnagshead.net](mailto:morris@townofnagshead.net).

### **Pit Fire Permits Now \$10**

Beach pit fires are allowed on the beaches of Nags Head with a "Pit Fire Permit" from Nags Head's Fire and Rescue Department. Permits, which now cost \$10, are issued between 5 pm and 9 pm at Fire Station 16, located at 5314 S. Croatan Highway/US 158 (MP 14.5) and at Fire Station 21 at 8806 S. Old Oregon Inlet Road (MP 18.5). For more information, call the Nags Head Fire and Rescue Department at 252-441-5909 or 252-441-2910.

# Sanitation Collection Schedule

## Residential

### East Route

Properties south of NC 12/1243 intersection (Whalebone Junction), properties located on NC 12, and properties south of MP 11.5/Old Nags Head Place that lie between NC 12 and US 158



**Summer Schedule** (Begins 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May)

Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday - Collection begins 3 a.m.

**Winter Schedule** (Begins last Monday in September)

Monday and Friday - Collection begins 5 a.m.

### West Route

Properties west of US 158, properties north of MP 11.5/  
Old Nags Head Place that lie between NC 12 and US 158, and properties accessed from US 64/264

**Same Schedule All Year**      Tuesday and Friday - Collection begins 5 a.m. (winter) and 3 a.m. (summer)

**Please roll out carts facing the street the day prior to collection day and back to the house on collection day.**

Having a special event and need to rent extra carts?

Call Public Works, 252-441-1122.

## Commercial

**Summer Schedule** (Begins 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday - Collection begins 3 a.m.

**Winter Schedule** (Begins last Monday in September)

Monday and Friday - Collection begins 5 a.m.

## Bulk Item/Brush Drop Off/Collection

Bulk items/brush can be dropped off throughout the year at the Town's collection site across from Public Works at 2200 Lark Avenue.

Site hours are:

Monday, Thursday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

From October 1 through April 30, the Town will collect bulk items from your curb by appointment. Call Nags Head Public Works at 252-441-1122 for more information.



## RECYCLING INFORMATION

### Curbside Collection

Curbside recycling is provided by Outer Banks Hauling (252-480-6699). For \$7.45/month, Outer Banks Hauling will provide a recycling container in which to place your recyclables. The container will be emptied every Tuesday. Outer Banks Hauling offers a seasonal service (3 month minimum contract) for residential properties that may not need recyclable collection all year.

### Town Collection Points

Open 24 hours/day

- Nags Head Town Hall
- Nags Head Public Works
- Huron St. Public Beach Access

## Town Boards and Committees

### Board of Commissioners

Mayor M. Renée Cahoon; Mayor Pro Tem Anna D. Sadler; Wayne Gray; Bob Oakes; and Doug Remaley

### Planning Board

Robert Edwards, Chair; Susie Walters, Vice-Chair; Carl "Pogie" Worsley; Angelina Lowe; John Ratzenberger; Clyde Futrell; Tom Haddon and Barbara Gernat, Alternate

### Board of Adjustments

Jack Cooper, Chair; Margaret Suppler, Vice-Chair; Alvin Hibbs; Susan Boncek; and Annette Ratzenberger. Alternates are Russell Lay, Deborah Bryant, Bob Muller, and Matt Whelan

### Note

Serve your community by volunteering for a Town board or committee. Applications are kept on file for consideration by the Board of Commissioners when vacancies occur. If interested, please call the Town Clerk at 252-449-2009 or obtain an application from [www.townofnagshead.net](http://www.townofnagshead.net).

### Personnel Grievance Panel

John Ratzenberger; Perry White; and George Barnes

### Citizens Advisory Committee

John Ratzenberger, Chair; Russell Lay, Vice-Chair; Susan Boncek; Deborah Bryant; John White; Dennis Mabe; Marty Moore, Suzanne Tate, Isabel Pitcher, Toni Parker, and C. Patrick Pritchard

## Municipal Complex Information

### Town Manager

Vacant

### Interim Town Manager

Cliff Ogburn

### Planning and Development Director

Tim L. Wilson

### Public Works Director

Dave Clark

### Finance Officer

Kim Kenny

### Town Clerk

Carolyn F. Morris

### Public Information

5401 S. Croatan Highway  
Administration, Finance/Tax, Water Billing, Planning/  
Development  
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
252-441-5508, Email: [info@townofnagshead.net](mailto:info@townofnagshead.net)

### Police

Emergency 9-1-1  
Non Emergency 252-473-3444  
5401 S. Croatan Highway  
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
252-441-6386, Fax 252-441-7335  
Email: [police@townofnagshead.net](mailto:police@townofnagshead.net)

### Public Works

2200 Lark Avenue  
Public Facilities Maintenance, Sanitation, Fleet Maintenance,  
Water Distribution and Operations  
Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
252-441-1122  
Email: [publicworks@townofnagshead.net](mailto:publicworks@townofnagshead.net)

### Fire and Ocean Rescue

Emergency 9-1-1  
Non Emergency 252-473-3444  
Fire Station 16, 5314 S. Croatan Highway  
24 Hours, 252-441-5909, Fax 252-441-8268  
Fire Station 21, 8806 S. Old Oregon Inlet Road  
24 Hours, 252-441-2910, Fax 252-441-3978  
Email: [fire@townofnagshead.net](mailto:fire@townofnagshead.net)



**NAGS HEAD LINES**  
Town of Nags Head  
P.O. Box 99  
Nags Head, NC 27959

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Page 8

**NAGS HEAD Lines**

Summer 2009

## **Town Meeting Calendar**

Agendas for Board of Commissioners meetings are published in advance in *The Coastland Times*. All meetings will be held in the Board Room unless otherwise specified. Agenda and background material for the Board of Commissioners meetings can be found on the Town's web site at [www.townofnagshead.net](http://www.townofnagshead.net).

| <u>Meeting</u>                            | <u>Dates</u>                          | <u>Times</u> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Daytime</b>                            |                                       |              |
| Board of Commissioners                    | September 2, October 7, November 4    | 9:00 a.m.    |
| Board of Adjustments (meets as necessary) | September 10, October 8, November 12  | 9:00 a.m.    |
| <b>Nightime</b>                           |                                       |              |
| Board of Commissioners*                   | September 16, November 18             | 7:30 p.m.    |
| Planning Board                            | September 15, October 20, November 17 | 6:30 p.m.    |
| Community Watch Meeting                   | October 13                            | 7:00 p.m.    |

\*Adjourned session meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held as necessary. Check newspaper listings, call Town Hall at 252-441-5508, or check the Town web site for more information.

The Citizens Advisory Committee and Personnel Grievance Panel meet as needed.  
Visit the Town web site for current meeting information.